

Appl. No. 10/710,625
Amdt. dated September 5, 2006
Reply to Office Action of May 4, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 5-11, 15-26, 30, 35-41, and 45-58 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 2, 12, 27-29, 31-34, and 42-44 and add new claim 59 as follows:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) The soccer goal assembly as claimed in ~~claim 1~~, ~~claim 27~~,
said goal including a pair of spaced apart upright posts and a cross post extending between
the uprights posts, with the first-mentioned post being one of the upright or cross
posts.

said posts being similarly shaped and dimensioned.

3. (Original) The soccer goal assembly as claimed in claim 2; and
at least one additional goal pad on one of the other posts, said at least one additional goal pad
being similar in construction and function to the first-mentioned goal pad.

4. (Original) The soccer goal assembly as claimed in claim 3,
each of said goal pads being received on a respective one of the upright posts.

5-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) The soccer goal assembly as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ + claim 27,
said at least one post presenting a maximum cross-sectional width dimension and an outer
periphery about which the goal pad is wrapped,
~~said body comprising a wall that presents a generally tubular cross-sectional shape with a~~
~~central opening in which the at least one post is received;~~
said wall extending at least about 75% around the outer periphery of the at least one post,
said wall having a maximum thickness that is less than about 50% of the maximum cross-
sectional width dimension of the at least one post.

13. (Original) The soccer goal assembly as claimed in claim 12,
said maximum thickness of the wall being about 5/8 of an inch.

14. (Original) The soccer goal assembly as claimed in claim 12,
said body being formed of a foam material,
said foam material having a Bashore Resiliency Test value of at least about 35.

15-26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) A soccer goal assembly goal pad for providing impact-cushioning along the generally forward and sideward facing playing surface of a goal post, said goal pad comprising:

a soccer goal including a post having a generally orthogonal cross-sectional post shape to present a front section and generally perpendicular side sections, with the front and side sections cooperatively defining a longitudinally extending, generally forward and sideward facing playing surface; and

a goal pad removably wrapped at least partly around the post to overlie the playing surface, said goal pad including an elongated body comprising a wall that presents a generally tubular cross-sectional pad shape with a central opening in which the goal post is received, said wall presenting an inner surface that defines the central opening, said wall including at least three longitudinally extending, generally straight wall portions, with a pair of the wall portions being spaced apart and projecting from a first one of the wall portions,

said body presenting a longitudinally extending slot defined between opposed longitudinal edges,

said body being formed of a compressible and resilient material that provides impact-cushioning along the playing surface and permits resilient flexing thereof so that the

edges are resiliently separable to receive the post within the slot as the goal pad is installed or removed,
said body being in a resiliently flexed condition when received on the post and in a relatively unflexed condition when located off of the post,
~~said wall presenting longitudinally extending opposite wall sections that converge pair of~~
~~wall portions converging toward the slot when the body is in the unflexed condition~~
and ~~are~~ being less convergent when the body is in the flexed condition,
~~said wall portions assuming a generally orthogonal shape and the inner surface contacting~~
~~and closely conforming to the post shape when the body is received on the post.~~

28. (Currently Amended) The goal pad soccer goal assembly as claimed in claim 27,
said post presenting a rear section opposite the front section, with the side sections extending
therebetween,
~~said wall including longitudinally extending generally opposite front and rear portions and~~
~~a pair of longitudinally extending generally opposite side portions defined between~~
~~the front and rear portions, with the front and side portions being dimensioned and~~
~~configured to overlie the playing surface of the post,~~
~~said slot being positioned along ~~defined in~~ the rear section portion of the wall post,~~
~~said pair of the wall portions converging ~~side~~ portions defining the wall sections, such that~~
~~the side portions converge rearwardly toward the slot.~~

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~goal pad~~ soccer goal assembly as claimed in claim 28,

said first one of the wall portions overlying the front section of the post, and said pair of wall portions each overlying a respective one of the side sections of the post,
said wall including a rear wall portion opposite the first one of the wall portions, with the pair of wall portions extending therebetween,
said wall having a orthogonal cross-sectional shape, with the first front and rear portions being generally parallel to one another and the pair of wall side portions being generally parallel to one another, when the body is received on the post.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) The ~~goal pad~~ soccer goal assembly as claimed in claim 27,

said wall having a maximum thickness of about 5/8 of an inch.

32. (Currently Amended) The ~~goal pad~~ soccer goal assembly as claimed in claim 27,

said body being formed of a foam material,

said foam material having a Bashore Resiliency Test value of at least about 35.

33. (Currently Amended) The ~~goal pad soccer goal assembly~~ as claimed in claim 27,
said edges being spaced apart when the body is in the flexed condition, such that the slot is open when the body is in the flexed condition.

34. (Currently Amended) The ~~goal pad soccer goal assembly~~ as claimed in claim 27,
said opposite portions being generally parallel when the body is in the flexed condition.

35-41. (Canceled)

42. (Currently Amended) The ~~goal pad soccer goal assembly~~ as claimed in ~~claim 35~~ claim 32,
said wall having a maximum thickness of about 5/8 of an inch.

43. (Currently Amended) The ~~goal pad soccer goal assembly~~ as claimed in ~~claim 35~~ claim 32,
said foam material having a Bashore Resiliency Test value of between about 40 and about 52.

Appl. No. 10/710,625
Amdt. dated September 5, 2006
Reply to Office Action of May 4, 2006

44. (Currently Amended) The ~~goal pad~~ soccer goal assembly as claimed in claim 43,
said foam material comprising an integral skin urethane foam.

45-58. (Cancelled)

59. (New) The soccer goal assembly as claimed in claim 27,
said first one of the wall portions overlying the front section of the post, and said pair of wall
portions each overlying a respective one of the side sections of the post.